

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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IWY
ACTION
[Signature]

June 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR MRS. FORD

FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT *BS*
SUBJECT: Message to the IWY Conference
in Mexico City

The State Department has recommended that you send a message to the International Women's Year Conference in Mexico City which could be read by Patricia Hutar, Co-chairman of the U. S. Delegation, when she makes the opening statement for the U. S. on June 20.

The NSC Staff concurs in State's recommendation. We believe a personal message from you to the Conference would be extremely effective in conveying the great interest of the U. S. Government and its leaders in the cause of equality for women. The proposed message at Tab A has been approved by Paul Theis' office.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve the message at Tab A to be read by Mrs. Hutar during the U. S. opening statement on June 20.

Attachment



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SUGGESTED MESSAGE FROM MRS. FORD
to the
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR CONFERENCE IN MEXICO CITY,
BEING HELD JUNE 20, 1975

[To Be Read By Mrs. Patricia Hutar]

As I am unable to be with you in Mexico City, I send my cordial greetings to Mrs. Echeverria, Secretary General Sipila, and to all who are attending this historic conference.

I wish you to know that the people and Government of the United States are firmly committed to the goals of this Conference and to the work that must follow it if those goals are to be reached.

The high purpose of International Women's Year--to promote the equality of women--truly enhances the equality of us all. As my husband said on the occasion of announcing our own National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year, the search to secure rights for women frees both sexes from restrictive stereotypes. Liberation of the spirit opens new possibilities for the future of all individuals and of all nations. I am awed by the task you face, I am inspired by the opportunity you have for progress.

I know that the co-leaders of the United States Delegation, Mrs. Hutar and Administrator Parker, and their colleagues, will work unceasingly with you in a spirit of cooperation to make the Conference on International Women's Year a landmark in the history of women's affairs and of humanity's search for peace and understanding.

